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Date: <u>June 27, 2002</u>

By: landa. See

Group Art Unit: 1645

Examiner: Unassigned

PATENT Docket No. GC648-2

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of

Dunn-Coleman et al.

Serial No. 09/991,209

Filed: November 16, 2001

For: Manipulation of the Phenolic Acid Content and Digestibility of Plant Cell Walls by Targeted Expression of Genes Encoding Cell Wall Degrading Enzymes

Preliminary Amendment

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office Box Sequence, P.O. Box 2327 Arlington, VA 22202

Sir:

Prior to examination, Applicants respectfully request entry of the following amendments.

In the drawings:

Please replace Figures 45A-H with new Figures 45A-H.

In the specification:

On page 4, please replace the paragraph starting on line 4 with the following:

Figures 2 A-E illustrate the complete DNA (SEQ. ID NO:1), with highlighting to point out the signal sequence, intron and various restriction endonuclease sites, and amino acid sequence (SEQ. ID. NO:2) corresponding to the gene encoding the 38 kD ferulic acid esterase isolated from *Aspergillus niger*.

On page 4, please replace the paragraph starting on line 9 with the following:

Ch